



**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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**AMERICAN FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO MEET IN BOSTON**

Acting Secretary of the Interior Clarence A. Davis today announced that the American Fisheries Advisory Committee, authorized under the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act, will hold its second meeting on August 25 and 26 at the Hotel Statler in Boston.

The chief objective of the meetings will be to outline new fishery research and development projects to be initiated nationwide during fiscal year 1956. Progress made in projects begun during the past fiscal year will be reviewed and evaluated.

Some of the major projects already undertaken with funds made available by the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act are:

Development of voluntary Federal grades and standards for fishery projects.

Development of a chemical test as a measure of the nutritive value of fish meal.

Development of new uses for fish oils.

Exploration of deep water fishing grounds in the North Atlantic.

Research on fluctuation of the California sardine.

Study of causes and control of toxic red tide off the Florida coast.

Under the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to appoint a group of experts from the domestic fishing industry to advise him on industry problems embraced by the legislation. The Advisory Committee consists of 19 representatives of the industry, appointed to serve until June 30, 1957.

Designed to "promote the free flow of domestically produced fishery products in commerce," the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act was passed by the 83d Congress and signed into law by President Eisenhower last year.

Enacted to strengthen the American fishing industry as a whole, the legislation provides that an amount equal to 30 percent of duties collected under the customs laws on fishery products shall be transferred annually for three years from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of the Interior. Expenditures for any one year may not exceed \$3,000,000.

Some accomplishments credited to the Saltonstall-Kennedy program during its first year include:

Two joint industry-Government sales promotion campaigns were conducted to move into trade channels excessive stocks of haddock and canned tuna. Both were highly successful.

Through exploratory fishing operations, significant catches of shrimp were made in deep water in the North Atlantic south of Nova Scotia by the Service's vessel, the Delaware, within range of the larger New England trawlers. Large ocean perch also have been taken in deep water.

The first of the voluntary standards of grade and condition for fishery products has been developed and drafted. This set of standards, for fish sticks, is now being reviewed by the industry and a final draft will be prepared as soon as all comments have been received.

In the field of biological research, a light float plane used in red tide research has not only demonstrated a saving of time and money but it has given increased coverage of the long Florida coastline. Use of this plane permits early detection of a red tide outbreak so that application of control measures can be applied immediately.

The operation of a research vessel at sea has given increased scope to data collection over the Pacific sardine spawning areas which has made possible a prediction of bigger catches in this year's fall and winter fishery.

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